



KANSAS CITY COMMUNITY GARDENS

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



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KCCG's mission:

To empower and inspire
low-income households, community groups,
and schools in the Kansas City Metropolitan area to
grow their own vegetables and fruit

In 2017, Kansas City Community Gardens:

- Empowered and inspired over 25,000 families at community, school, and home garden sites to grow more than 1 million pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables
- Received 2,388 hours of help from 386 volunteers, helping KCCG to decrease its costs by \$23,000
- Secured a partnership with The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce Centurions Program to expand the Beanstalk Children's Garden, adding 12,000 square feet of Demonstration Orchard space

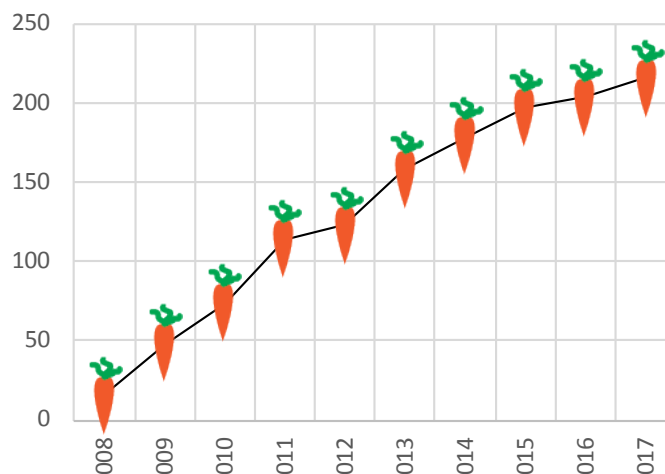


Schoolyard Gardens

KCCG's Schoolyard Gardens program partners with over 200 local schools to provide gardening resources, education, and technical assistance, involving students in every stage of the garden construction, planting, caring, and harvesting process.

Total Pounds Harvested in 2017: 21,600

Number of Schoolyard Gardens

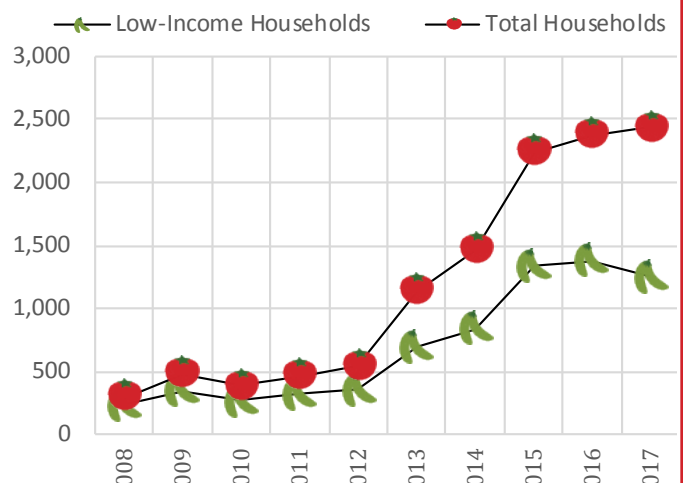


Self-Help Gardening

Self-Help Gardening serves individual families, empowering them to grow their own fruits and vegetables at their homes or at one of over 800 KCCG rental plots. On average, each KCCG household can grow close to 500 lbs. of produce with an investment of \$25 each year.

Total Pounds Harvested in 2017: 652,400

Number of Self-Help Gardens



Kansas City Community Gardens headquarters is located at:

6917 Kensington, Kansas City, Mo., 64132

816.931.3877

www.kccg.org

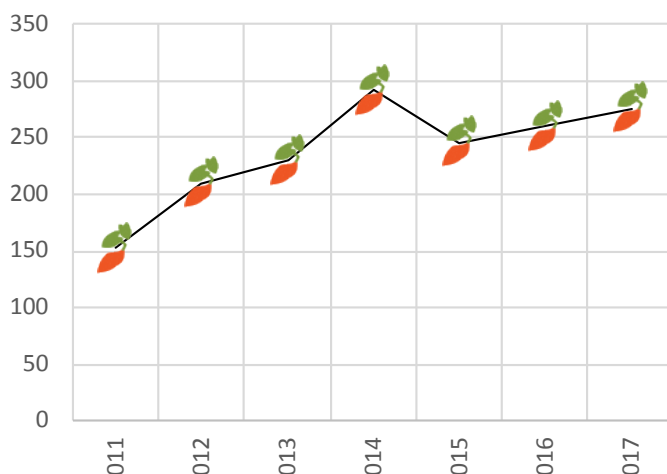
Community Partner Gardens

Community Partner Gardens works with other nonprofit agencies, congregations, senior living facilities, youth groups, and more to establish gardens across the metro.

These gardens are utilized by partner clients, as they grow food to take home to their families, or as a group to donate harvests to local food pantries.

Total Pounds Harvested in 2017: 353,827

Number of Community Partner Gardens

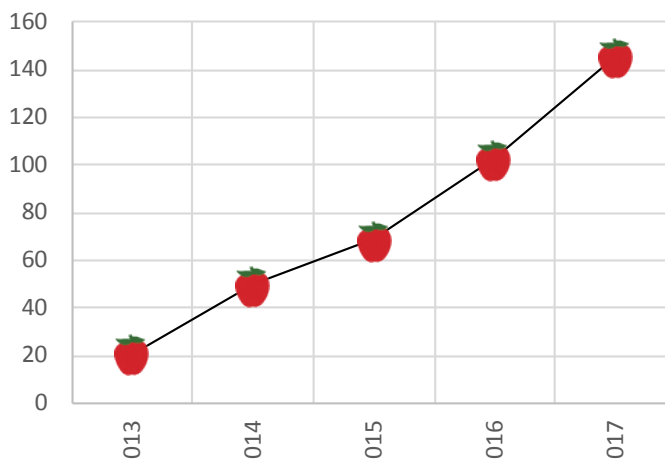


The Giving Grove

The Giving Grove partners with dedicated community groups and stewards to establish orchards that will serve to feed people in need for years to come. Many of these orchards are installed at existing Community Partner Gardens and Schoolyard Gardens, and others are installed on municipal lands, offering a sustainable source of nourishment.

Annual Potential Harvest: 278 Tons

Number of Giving Grove Orchards



Feeding Kansas City's Hungry

About \$5 worth of seeds, the sweat equity of a Missouri couple, their two grandchildren, and a network of volunteers and caring organizations have fed the Kansas City hungry and homeless thousands of pounds of vegetables each year for eight years.

With one 9,900-square foot garden and one KCCG membership, **Kathy and Leo Dean** look forward to their ninth year of growing food dedicated to Uplift, to homeless shelters, and to Harvesters' food pantries.

"It's just amazing," Kathy says. "For less than \$5 for seeds, we raise thousands of pounds of produce to give. KCCG members can plant huge gardens for nearly nothing. The seed quality is so good."

I had no idea the number of people that this little garden could help, but it has been such a blessing to watch it grow and to see the results each year."



The Dean's grandson Braydon and some of the 6,000 ears of corn harvested by the Deans in 2017.

KCCG Board of Directors 2016-2017

President

Gordon Braun
Managing Director, Protiviti, Inc.

Treasurer

Tim Hall, CPA
Certified Public Accountant, Hostess Brands

Vice President

Grace Scott-Golden
Independent Consultant, Mary Kay Cosmetics

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Claire Boeshaar
Marketing Partnerships Manager, Helzberg Diamonds

Lawrence Lehman
Retired, The Counseling Office, Inc.

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Owner, Just in Time Consulting LLC

Jana D. Merfen
Director of Enterprise Risk Management and Business Process Operations, CommunityAmerica Credit Union

Adam W. Bormann
Director of Portfolio and Project Management, Government Employees Health Association

Karen Palmer
Perceptive Software | Lexmark

Susan Dillard
Owner, Project Assist KC

Brett A. Shanks
Associate Attorney, Stinson Leonard Street LLP

Anna Graether
Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences

Joseph P. Sweeny, CFP
Senior Vice President, Country Club Trust Company

Sammy Howell
Retired, Hallmark

Augusta Wilbon
Neighborhood Housing Services

Brent Kroh
Vice President-Sales, Elmwood Reclaimed Timber

Advisory Board

Jill Bunting
Phoebe Bunting
Dody Gates
Lorelei Gibson

Andrew Kaplan
George Kroh
Alison Ward

Beanstalk Children's Garden

The Beanstalk Children's Garden is a wonder-filled field trip destination for children of all ages.



Guided Tours - Focusing on STEM-based lessons, children who tour through the six garden areas (Vegetable, Fruit, Herb, Grain, Water, and Curiosity) learn where their food comes from, about plant and water cycles, and discover a lifelong appreciation for growing their own food.



Girl Scout Badges – The Beanstalk Children's Garden offers several badges, including:



Brownie Bugs



Brownie Snack



Junior Flowers



Junior Gardener



Cadette Trees



Self-Guided Tours - Everyone's invited to stop by the Beanstalk Children's Garden before or after their day at the KC Zoo or Lakeside Nature Center! The Beanstalk Garden is a participant of the Kansas City Passport to Adventure.

Fall Family Festival



Fall Family Festival – Every September, KCCG hosts this fun event in the Beanstalk Children's Garden. Enjoy interactive stations throughout the garden, animals and insects, food and drink, face-painting and crafts!



High school students learning to preparing fresh food in the Beanstalk Garden.

16,838 Green Beans - 1 Raised Bed

One of KCCG's 386+ volunteers is **Roger Shelton**, who also donates his personal garden harvest to his children, friends, neighbors, and even strangers that walk by his house. This year, the bulk of his harvest went to the GAP (Grandview Assistance Program).

"I purchase about 95% of my seeds and plants and 100% of my fertilizer and insecticides from KCCG. I find their seeds to be excellent and their plants to be the best at very affordable prices," said Shelton

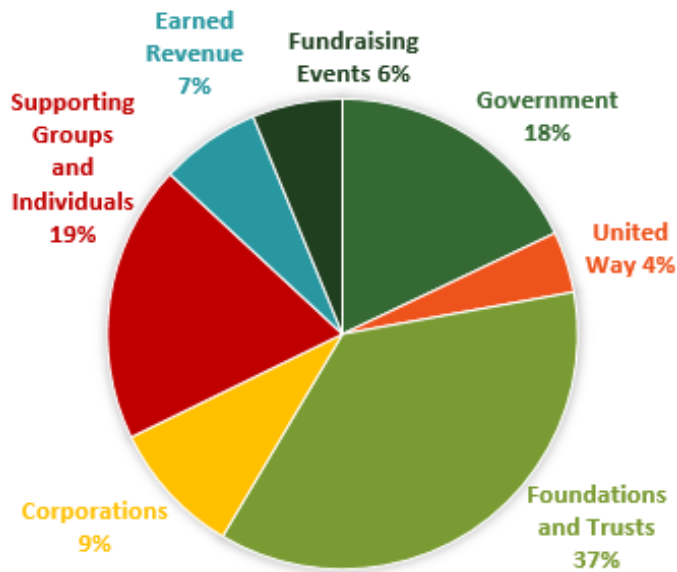
As far as the green beans go, Shelton said, "Yes, I counted them. I enjoy numbers and like to let people know what you can grow in a very small plot. This year, I harvested 16,838 green beans. That is equivalent to about 160 pounds.

"I produce a lot because I take a 4 x 12 raised bed and depending on the seeds or plants, I can plant two and sometimes three successive crops in the same year. My 4 x 12 becomes an 8 x 12 and possibly a 12 x 12.

"Giving away several hundred pounds of fresh produce was unbelievable, but I would say that the person who benefited the most was me. I got a lot of exercise, met some great people, and got so much satisfaction in growing the gardens and giving the produce away."

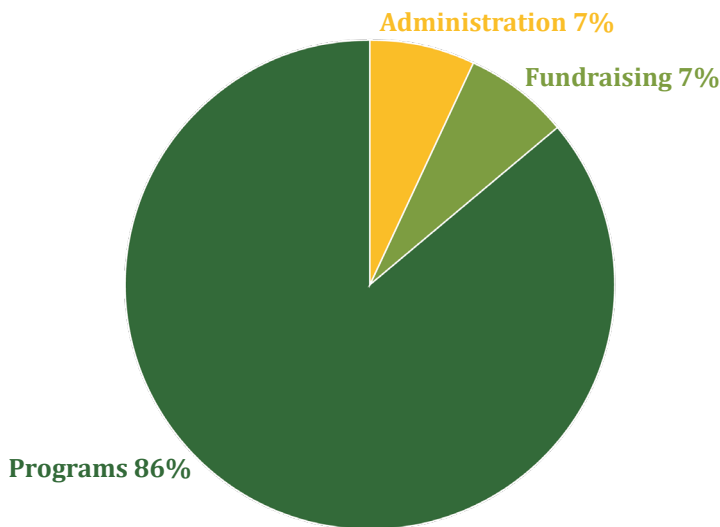


FY 2017 Revenue Breakdown



Total Revenue: \$1,419,262

FY 2017 Expense Breakdown



Total Expenses: \$1,400,156



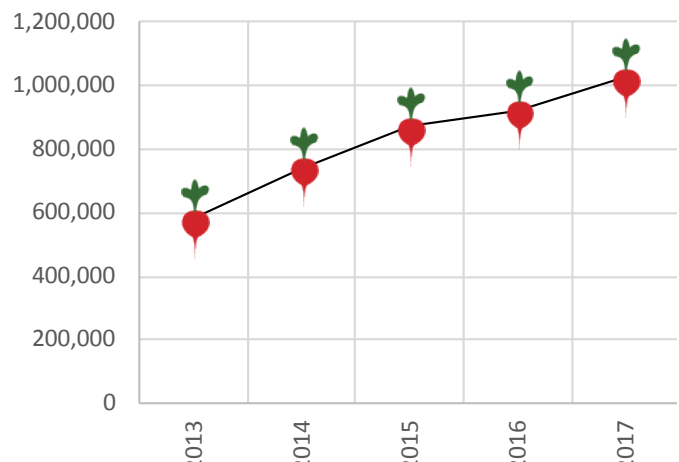
How Does KCCG Do It?

Because of you! Since 2013, KCCG has increased its impact to the community, more than doubling the pounds of food harvested. Similarly, KCCG's donors have increased their support in the same time. Our support base has also grown, adding 350+ new contributors in the same period.

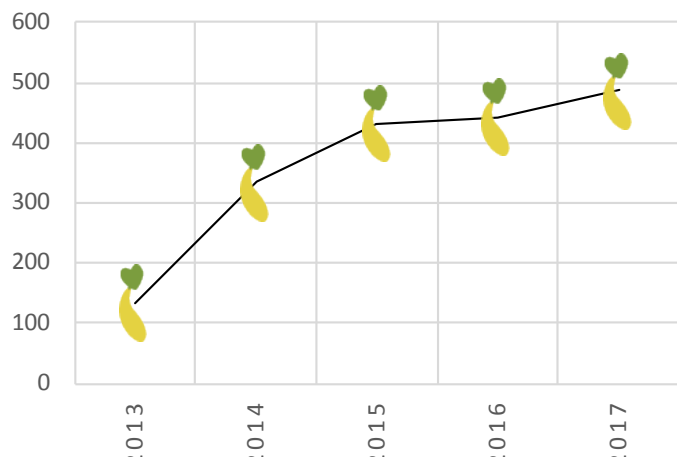
By contributing to Kansas City Community Gardens, you are ensuring increased access to the healthiest food on the planet—the kind you grow yourself!

Support KCCG by visiting www.kccg.org/donate today.

Pounds of Food Harvested



Number of KCCG Contributors



Thank you!

From everyone at KCCG, thank you to all who contributed their time and financial support in 2017.

Kansas City Community Gardens is so fortunate to have a long and growing list of individuals, charitable foundations, corporations and businesses, community groups, and government agencies supporting our effort to increase access to healthy food for all.

For a complete list of 2017's contributors, please visit www.kccg.org/contributors.

From the Executive Director

As I watch with amazement, Kansas City Community Gardens continues to grow in its impact each and every year. 2017 was no exception.

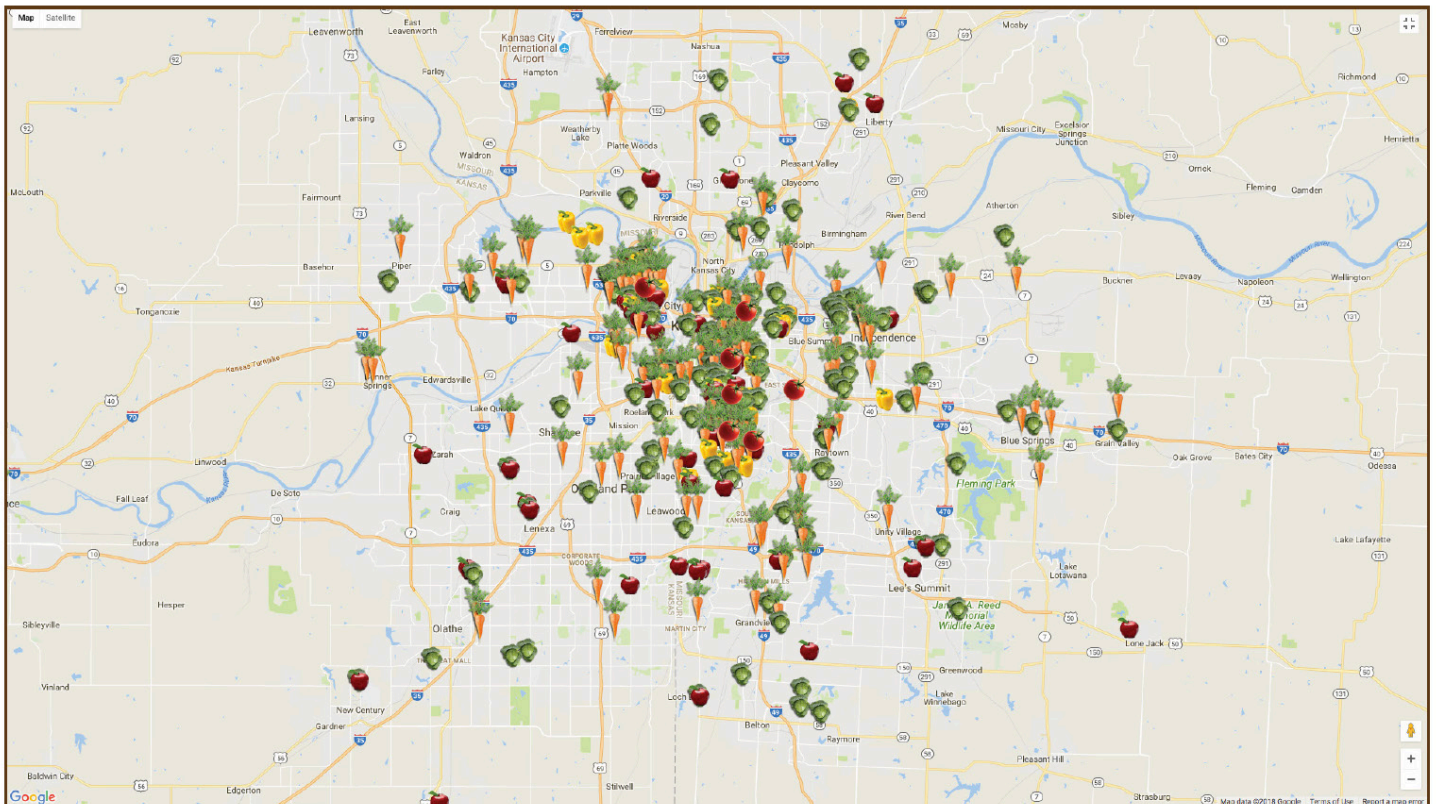
Our dedicated staff, Board of Directors, volunteers, and supporters made it possible for KCCG gardeners across the metro to grow more than **1 million pounds** of healthy food for their neighbors, friends, local food pantries, and their own kitchen tables.

Together, we are making a real difference: we are making healthy food more accessible for all of our community

members, we are empowering families to learn valuable lifelong skills, and we are improving the value of our most vulnerable neighborhoods. Thank you for your dedication to KCCG's mission—we could not achieve it without you!

Ben Sharda
Executive Director

KCCG Garden Locations



KCCG Staff

Ben Sharda
Executive Director

Rob Reiman
Giving Grove Director

Courtney Foy
Director of Development and Marketing

Earlene Franks
Office Manager

Phil Meyer
Garden Manager

MaryAnna Henggeler
Schoolyard Gardens Coordinator

Crystal Fritz
Schoolyard Gardens Assistant

Micah Wilkins
Schoolyard Gardens Assistant

Sharon Goldstein
Community Partner Gardens Coordinator

Bobby Wright
Community Partner Gardens Coordinator

Shea Bergman
Home and Youth Gardens Coordinator

Gabriel Racca
Bilingual Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator

Matt Bunch
Giving Grove Horticulturalist

Amanda Lindahl
Giving Grove Outreach Coordinator

Justin Lark
Giving Grove Horticulture Assistant

Lois Lehman
Beanstalk Children's Garden Coordinator

Nikki Schaper
Beanstalk Children's Garden Assistant Coordinator

Kathy Jenkins-Hart
Giving Grove Development Director

Amy Eastin
Community Relations Coordinator

Erin Besson
Grants Assistant

Seasonal Staff

Izola Pickett
Front Desk

Christine Don
Beanstalk Children's Garden Assistant

Andie Conn
Beanstalk Children's Garden Assistant

Americorps Volunteers

Christina Hoefer

Brandon Clay